

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **DEVICE AND METHOD FOR ETCHING A SUBSTRATE USING AN INDUCTIVELY COUPLED PLASMA**, for which an application for Letters Patent was filed as PCT International Application Number **PCT/DE00/01835** on June 6, 2000, an English translation of the specification being filed herewith.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international applications(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

**PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)**

<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Day/month/year filed</u>	<u>Priority Claimed Under 35 USC § 119</u>
199 33 842.6	Germany	20 July 1999	Yes

And I hereby appoint Richard L. Mayer (Reg. No. 22,490) and Gerard A. Messina (Reg. No. 35,952) my attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this

*9L 234413077*

application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please address all communications regarding this application to:

②

KENYON & KENYON  
One Broadway  
New York, New York 10004

Please direct all telephone calls to Richard L. Mayer at (212) 425-7200.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful and false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

09763095-050901

1-00  
Inventor:

Volker BECKER

Inventor's Signature:

V. Becker

Date: 06 02 2007

Residence: Im Wiesele 7  
76359 Marxzell  
Federal Republic of Germany

DEX

Citizenship: Federal Republic of Germany

Post Office Address: Same as above

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2-00  
Inventor: Franz LAERMER

Inventor's Signature: Franz Laerner

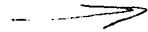
Date: 06/02/2001

Residence: Witikoweg 9  
70437 Stuttgart  
Federal Republic of Germany

DEX

Citizenship: Federal Republic of Germany

Post Office Address: Same as above



09762935-050901  
10050-58629260

3-00  
Inventor: Andrea SCHILP

Inventor's Signature: Andrea Schilp

Date: 06/02/01

Residence: Seelenbachweg 15  
73525 Schwäbisch Gmünd  
Federal Republic of Germany

DE X

Citizenship: Federal Republic of Germany

Post Office Address: Same as above